

Washington, D.C. - Today, Congressman Costa responded to the initial list of this year's round of base closures.

Both Lemoore Naval Air Station and the 144th Fighter Wing received a net gain according to the Department of Defense recommendations for base closures and realignments.

Lemoore currently has 5,364 military personnel and 799 civilian personnel. Under the department's recommendations, Lemoore will lose 39 military personnel. However, the base will have a net gain of 5 military personnel and 35 civilian personnel, for a total of 40 people. The Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommends moving the intermediate and depot maintenance workload, which is currently at Naval Air Depot North Island in San Diego, to Lemoore NAS. The newly merged facility will be named the "Fleet Readiness Center West."

The Fresno Air Terminal (144th) currently has 375 full time personnel and 627 part-time personnel. The base will gain 57 military personnel and 254 civilian personnel, for a total gain of 311 people. The commission recommends retiring 15 F16s at the 144th

. In addition, the 188th

Fighter Wing will relocate seven F16s to the Fresno Air Terminal from Fort Smith in Arkansas. Also, the 944th

Fighter Wing at Reno-Tahoe International Airport Air Guard Station will distribute 11 F16s to the 144th

. The details regarding how the remaining net gain will be employed has not yet been made clear by the Commission.

Congressman Costa is available for comment. Please call the numbers below to set up an interview.

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